

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00
INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /117 W
-----045341 171207Z /15

O R 171035Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0954
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABERONE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 5950

STATE PASS USDEL SECRETARY
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: APPROACH TO THE INDIANS

REF: USUN 1431

1. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS HERE AMONG CONTACT GROUP MEMBERS, FRENCH DCM (MLLE DE CORBIE) AND EMBASSY POLCOUNSELOR MET AFTERNOON APRIL 15 WITH K.K. BHARGAVA, JOINT SECRETARY (AF-RICA), MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO MAKE THEPOINTS SPELLED OUT BY THE CONTACT GROUP FOR PRESENTATION TO INDIAN AND THREE OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS. COPIES OF THE TALKING POINTS AND OF THE WORKING DRAFT RESOLUTION WERE LEFT WITH HIM.

2. AFTER LISTENING TO THE PRESENTATION AND GOING OVER THE WRITTEN DOCUMENTS, BHARGAVA SAID HE WOULD PROMPTLY BRING THEM TO THE ATTENTION OF HIGHER AUTHORITY. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE GOI WOULD BE GETTING INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS UN MISSION.

3. BHARGAVA'S OWN "INITIAL, PERSONAL" REACTION TO THE PRESENTATION WAS NOT ENCOURAGING. HE SAID THAT SINCE THERE HAD AS YET BEEN NO INDICATION FROM SWAPO AND THE SAG OF THEIR REACTION TO THE WESTERN PROPOSAL, IT SEEMED TO HIM PREMATURE TO REQUEST THE SYG TO REPORT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION. HE ALSO SAID THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENCES ON THE PART OF THOSE CONCERNED ABOUT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE UN AND ABOUT THE POWERS OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. HE SAID IN THIS CONNECTION THAT INDIA CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD HAVE GREATER AND MORE SPECIFIC AUTHORITY THAN SPELLED OUT IN THE WESTERN PROPOSAL. IT THUS SEEMED TO HIM PREMATURE TO REQUEST THE SYG TO APPOINT A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

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4. BHARGAVA QUESTIONED US CLOSELY ABOUT THE SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO WIN APPROVAL OF AN EARLY SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NAMIBIA SEEMED TO US LIKELY TO RECEIVE. HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE STRONGLY NEGATIVE CAST TO THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF APRIL 13 AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY SO, HE SEEMED TO SUGGEST THAT OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO GAIN SUPPORT WOULD BE FUTILE. TOWARD THE END OF THE DISCUSSION HE DID SUGGEST THAT PERHAPS A DRAFT RESOLUTION SIMPLY TAKING NOTE OF THE WESTERN PROPOSALS MIGHT BE USEFUL IN EXERTING A HELPFUL INFLUENCE ON SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAPO; HE ALSO WONDERED WHY NO MENTION HAD BEEN MADE IN THE DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE UNGA. SPECIAL SESSION. BUT THESE WERE MINOR POINTS. THE PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS WE DREW WERE (1) INDIA STILL HAS MISGIVINGS ABOUT IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE WESTERN PROPOSAL, NOTABLY ON THE ROLE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ON WALVIS BAY, AND (2) THE GOI WAS UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT A FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING NEXT WEEK, PARTICULARLY IF, AS IT EXPECTS, SUCH A MEETING HAS LITTLE SUPPORT OUTSIDE THE WESTERN FIVE. FURTHER COMMENT: OUR DEMARCHE TOOK PLACE BEFORE WE HAD RECEIVED USUN REPORT (1465) OF DISCUSSIONS WITH JAIPAL. IF BHARGAVA WAS AT THAT POINT AWARE OF JAIPAL'S LOBBYING ACTIVI-

TY, HE DID NOT LET ON. NOT THAT, DESPITE HIS FEELING THAT SUCH EFFORTS WERE FUTILE, HE OR ANYONE ELSE HERE WOULD HAVE OBJECTED. WE GET THE IMPRESSION THAT ON SUCH TACTICAL ISSUES, MEA GENERALLY LETS JAIPAL CALL THE SHOTS. IN ANY EVENT, AND AS NOTED IN THE SUMMARY ABOVE (CLEARED WITH THE FRENCH AND PASSED TO THE OTHERS HERE), BHARGAVA'S OBJECTIONS TO OUR COURSE OF ACTION WERE BASED ON THE ALLEGED SHORTCOMINGS OF THE WESTERN PROPOSALS AS REFLECTED IN THE DRAFT RESOLUTION, NOT ON THE IDEA OF A FORMAL SESSION AS SUCH.
GOHEEN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USDEL SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE05950
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780164-0075
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780449/aaaabpoe.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0f5188ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 1431
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2944103
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: APPROACH TO THE INDIANS
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, SF, WA
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0f5188ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014